

Message

From: Minter, Douglas [Minter.Douglas@epa.gov]
Sent: 8/20/2020 8:55:25 PM
To: Douglas Minter [mintersfour@gmail.com]
CC: Minter, Douglas [Minter.Douglas@epa.gov]
Subject: FW: Final Revisions to DB NRC Briefing Document

Minter, Douglas has shared a OneDrive for Business file with you. To view it, click the link below.



OW OGC R8 Briefing on Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP) UIC Dewey Burdock version 2 081920.docx

From: Minter, Douglas
Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2020 2:03 PM
To: O'Connor, Darcy <oconnor.darcy@epa.gov>
Cc: Bahrman, Sarah <Bahrman.Sarah@epa.gov>
Subject: Final Revisions to DB NRC Briefing Document

Hi Darcy: we heard back from OGWDW (Bill) and after talking with Anita he suggested some additional language on local water wells and the Class V permit in the Background section:

EPA's Class III Area Permit

*The proposed area permit is for an ISR project is located in the Southern Black Hills on the Wyoming state line (see **Attachment 1**), an area considered sacred to at least 38 tribal nations. Powertech proposes to use a series of injection wells which require permitting under the UIC Class III regulations to inject a solution (native groundwater with oxygen and carbon dioxide added) into the ore body to extract the uranium. The uranium-bearing solution is then extracted through recovery wells and pumped to a processing plant where the uranium is removed. The barren solution is pumped back to the injection wells and reused. These uranium ore deposits are within the relatively shallow Inyan Kara aquifer system which meets the definition of an underground source of drinking water (USDW). There are 11 private drinking water wells completed into the Inyan Kara and located outside the portion of these aquifers to be exempted from SDWA protection to enable ISR of uranium. Eight of these wells are within the project area boundary and three are outside and downgradient within a mile of this boundary. Process waste fluids must be treated to remove radium and disposed of into deep injection wells which require a Class V area permit (and is not the subject of NRC's concerns noted below). South Dakota has not assumed authority to implement the UIC Class III or Class V programs, so Region 8 remains the permitting authority. The NRC issued its license for this project in 2014 and the South Dakota DENR will resume its permitting processes after the final Class III and V permits and aquifer exemption (AE) are issued.*

Unless you have any questions, please accept the recent changes to the briefing document and send it with the two other files to Karen McIntosh. Could you also ask Karen to add the following ORIA folks to the invitation please?

Tom Peake
Daniel Schultheisz
Ingrid Rosencrantz

Thanks!

Douglas